

WITH THE FARMERS

By Prof. W. F. MASSEY



Friday, December 26, 1913.
Shooting Cabbage Plants by Post.
North Carolina: "Please tell me how to wrap cabbage plants to send by parcel post. Do they have to be put in pasteboard boxes? If so where can I get the boxes? Will there be any danger of plants going to seed soon here on September 21st? Some of the plants are getting rather large. Will a large plant be more apt to run to seed than a small one sown at same time? In small quantities you can send the plants by wrapping them in slightly damp sphagnum moss in oiled paper, and then with heavy Manila paper, rolling the bundle tight. Larger quantities had better be in boxes packed in moss and oiled paper. You can get telescope boxes of all sizes from the Boas Paper Box Factory, Philadelphia. The smaller, or stunted plants will be more apt to run to seed than the large ones, but no one can predict what may take place with cabbage plants, as much is due to the season and the fertility of the soil in which they are planted."

2. Please advise me also as to the best fertilization of Wakened cabbages."

A fertilizer mixture of 1,200 pounds of seed phosphate, 600 pounds of cottonseed meal and 200 pounds of the muriate of potash will make a ton of good cabbage fertilizer for your soil. Use from 1,000 to 1,500 pounds an acre, according to the fertility of the soil.

Beach Seed.
Roanoke County: "Where can I get beach seed, and at what price by bushel or count? How many seeds will they run per bushel?"

It is late now to get beach seed anywhere, unless some of the large nurseries have a surplus to dispose of. You can apply to any of the nurseries about Richmond, and they may be able to get them for you. In Western and upper Piedmont North Carolina country merchants take them and supply the nurseries, but how many there are in a bushel I can not say. Nurseries now generally plant them in the fall with a drill made for the purpose. Formerly they were stratified in beds of sand to burst in winter, but that involved too much hand work, and they have found that it is just as well to plant them in the fall. They are planted with a drill that has a hopper carrying about 100 bushels at once. You can hardly get them now from the collectors, and unless some nurseryman can supply them you will hardly be able to get them this season.

Growing Sugar Beets.
Why cannot we grow sugar beets in Virginia, and make sugar as they do in the North and in California? Certainly we can grow the beets, but the most careful experiments have shown that southward in the Atlantic slope the percentage of sugar needed for the most successful manufacture. Some years ago there was an effort made in North Carolina to grow the culture of sugar beets, and a promoter came and urged the establishment of a sugar factory. The Governor got into it, and he asked me to study the sugar beet-making. I took to the factory at Norfolk, Neb., some sugar beets grown in Eastern North Carolina, and then I took them back but they failed to come up to the standard, and in fact were overgrown. I spent some time in the study of the manufacture of sugar, and made a full report to the Governor, which was printed in a pamphlet and distributed. That pretty well settled the sugar beet business in North Carolina. The Experiment Station did continue to make tests of best growing in various parts of the State, and the result was that even in the best soil and best seed obtainable we could not produce the kind needed for the best results in sugar-making. It was very interesting to watch the growth of the beets, and to see the effect of the factory and fine white granulated sugar running out at the other end in twelve hours, from the seed. But the soil and climate where the beets can be profitably grown have been pretty well determined, and our white granulated sugar will not be made in Virginia. That if one is satisfied with the white color, the sugar beets are the best made here, and in winter use.

Corn Shows.
There was the usual great display of ears of corn at the Baltimore show last month. These shows of corn ears have certainly done a great deal of good in attracting more interest in corn growing and improvement, but the ears shown by the boys in the corn show have done more to awaken interest in corn culture in the South than the corn ears shows. It is very nice to have ears that meet the requirements of the corn show, but it is more to have ears that the pretty official ears, will cover with grain at each end, will for that reason show a corn ear more than a single ear displayed.

In fact, at one of the stations it was shown the tapering ears, that would not pass muster at the corn show, and were ears more than the cylindrical ear. What we need is exhibitions of the whole corn plant, showing its manner of growth, its proclivity and the number of ears produced under fair average good farming methods. Shows of this sort would give us far more information than the shows of ears,

which simply show that one may have selected prettier ears than another, though his field may not have made as many bushels an acre as the man who did not select the prize. What the farmer is interested in is in getting the most corn from an acre under fair businesslike farming. If he can do this with the pretty selected ears, all right; but in breeding corn we need to look further than the making of ears of a particular form; we want to produce a corn that will be of fairly good stature, but not too tall, and with ears out of reach, and we want the corn that will fill most bushel baskets from an acre on the same land.

Especially we need to learn that in soil of average fertility we can breed out the stalks that make no ears by not allowing such to ripen pollen. I have investigated cornfields that should make fifty bushels of corn an acre, and have found as high as 10 per cent of the stalks without an ear. It would seem, then, that the breeding out of these barren stalks is a matter of great importance, and that it can be done. I have seen in the work of one of the best corn breeders, through whose field I went in every direction and failed to find a stalk without an ear, though he said that in the beginning of his work there were always many of these. But he persistently pulled the green tassels from the barren stalks, and thus prevented their scattering pollen and breeding more barren progeny. (I finally he can find no barren stalks in his field. Five bushels an acre is a heavy tax to pay for barren stalks, and there is no necessity for having them if the farmer will look carefully after the crop and weed them out.)

Onions, Etc.
Pittsylvania County: "I cannot get along without your advice from day to day in The Times-Dispatch, and I beg to trouble you for further information. How and when to sow onion seed of the Prizefighter and White Pearl of Norfolk Queen, to be transplanted for big onions next spring and summer? How to use hen manure? I have 100 hens and 100 pigeons. Can I mix it to advantage, and how does it do to apply in a liquid state? Can I use a cellar room, warmed by a heater about 60 to 70 degrees, not very light, to sprout the seeds this winter and bulbs in boxes for transplanting to cold frame? My red raspberries make very large vines, bloom well, but only have and there a vine has large berries, most all seed. Are they too close, or have too much fertilizer?"

I have already treated of the sowing of onion seed for transplanting. The Prizefighter and the Italian onions are the only kinds suited to this method. I use the Norfolk Queen only for green onions in the spring, as it is the earliest we can get for that purpose. Use the hen and pigeon manure just as you would any animal manure, except that being strictly nitrogenous you will not need as heavy a coat as of stable manure. A bushel in a barrel of water will make a fine liquid manure, and the two kinds will mix very well. You cannot do much at starting seed in the cellar. A dark cellar is a good place to put bulbs till they get out of the soil and begin to bloom. For the bulbs will not bloom well if they do not get roots well developed before the tops are excited into full sunlight for blooming. This refers to such as narcissus, hyacinths and tulips for blooming in the house in winter. Your red raspberries may be too thick, may be a poor sort, or may have too much manure and may be hindered by thinking and an application of acid phosphate and potash. I am glad to note so many taking an interest in their gardens.

Using Carbon Bisulphide.
Place the carbon bisulphide placed on corn already sown, will injure it in taste for meal or stock feed? No, it will have no effect at all on the grain, and it is very volatile and leaves no odor or taste.

Crimson Clover Growth.
"I have sown some crimson clover, lined the land and put on plenty of the manure, and it is growing. Have a good stand, but it seems to grow very slowly. Having no experience with it before, I do not know whether this is natural or not." If you have a good stand and it keeps green until you expect it to winter, that it should not grow and get tender now. It would have been much better so far as its value as a winter cover, had you left out the manure and used only acid phosphate and potash, for the clover will use nitrogenous plant food supplied in the soil and will not do as much in getting green until the nitrogen is used up. It will have done with only a supply of the mineral fertilizer. The plants will naturally remain somewhat dormant through the winter and will grow off fast enough in the spring.

Oak Leaves for Bedding.
"Do you think that oak leaves, used as bedding for cattle and horses, will make as good fertilizer as straw?" I have a good stand, but it seems to grow very slowly. Having no experience with it before, I do not know whether this is natural or not. If you have a good stand and it keeps green until you expect it to winter, that it should not grow and get tender now. It would have been much better so far as its value as a winter cover, had you left out the manure and used only acid phosphate and potash, for the clover will use nitrogenous plant food supplied in the soil and will not do as much in getting green until the nitrogen is used up. It will have done with only a supply of the mineral fertilizer. The plants will naturally remain somewhat dormant through the winter and will grow off fast enough in the spring.

The Church Hill Bank, Inc.

Statement of the Financial Condition
of

at the close of business December 1, 1913.

condensed from report made by

William McK. Evans, Certified Public Accountant.

RESOURCES

Loans and Investments	\$474,369.21
Cash and Due from Banks	98,549.19
Banking House	20,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$592,918.40

LIABILITIES

Capital Stock	\$150,000.00
Surplus and Undivided Profits	24,908.01
Deposits	406,231.30
Reserved and Other Items	11,779.09
	<hr/>
	\$592,918.40

I hereby certify that I have made a thorough audit of the above Bank at the close of business December 1, 1913. The above is a true and just statement of the condition as I found them. The books are in perfect balance, and the securities in evidence; the Officers and Directors alive to their responsibilities

WILLIAM MCK. EVANS,
Certified Public Accountant.

OFFICERS

O. E. PARRISH, President and Cashier.
H. A. HARE, Vice-President.
CHAS. E. TALLEY, Assistant Cashier.

DIRECTORS

Jos. E. Sorg, Chairman of Board;
P. H. Allen,
Chas. J. Billups,
T. F. Boyle,
Ramon D. Garcin.

H. A. Hare,
A. R. Holladay,
L. H. Kemp,
John Mann, Jr.,
H. T. Moore,

O. E. Parrish,
J. L. Satterfield,
John Sloan,
J. W. Stewart,
John B. Welsh.

HOLIDAY TRADE IS SATISFACTORY

Bristol Merchants Conclude One of Busiest Weeks in History.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Bristol, Va., December 25.—Bristol concluded on Wednesday one of the most successful holiday trade weeks in its history. For six days the streets and shopping centers were thronged with merry shoppers, and every merchant keeping Christmas goods, and the clothing and grocery merchants as well, were kept busy from morning until late at night.

The Christmas whiskey trade was immense, amounting perhaps to more than during any previous year. It is believed that the evidence of the government in the trade of the whiskey will not fall below the mark of Christmas a year ago when as a result of six days' activity on the part of shoppers from neighboring counties the bank deposits aggregated \$45,000.

The bank of the city, the Citizens' Bank, and others against the Clinchfield Coal Corporation, involving the title to coal lands in Buchanan and Russell counties, valued at \$100,000, will be argued on its merits before Judge Frank R. Burton of Abingdon, beginning on January 15. It is expected that the argument will require at least three days. The case is a complicated one and has not yet been argued in the court.

Reference to a large number of children, which their mother, it is alleged, sold to the Clinchfield Coal Corporation without regard to their rights under the terms upon which the property was sold, has been made. Mrs. Imboden, who is still living, came into possession of the property as a result of the sale. The case is being argued in the court.

ZELAYA EXPLAINS

Tells Why He Made Trip to This Country.

New York, December 25.—Jose E. Santos Zelaya, former President of Nicaragua, before his departure for Barcelona, Spain, yesterday issued a statement explaining the nature and purpose of his stay in the United States.

"I am leaving the country now because I have completed my private business, and I am glad to relieve the Department of State of any embarrassment I may cause them. The department has handled my case with consideration and justice."

Mr. Zelaya explains that, in a spirit of patriotism, he had learned the bulk of his fortune to the Nicaraguan government to assist the country in its war against Honduras in 1907, and that in evidence of the government's indebtedness he has been issued government bonds, which constitute an absolute first lien on the customs receipts of Nicaragua. These bonds, Mr. Zelaya says, have been sold by him to an American company, the transaction necessitating his presence in this country.

BRINGS SUIT FOR DIVORCE

Mrs. Carrie S. Russell Seeks Freedom.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
Fredericksburg, Va., December 25.—Suits has been instituted in the Circuit Court of Spotsylvania for a divorce by Mrs. Carrie S. Russell against her husband, James E. Russell, on the grounds of cruelty and desertion.

Dee Corting, of Stafford County, while cutting wood, met with a serious accident when the ax slipped and struck his knee, cutting a severe gash. Blood poison set in, and it was necessary to have the leg amputated above the knee. The operation was performed by Dr. Pratt, Dr. C. Mason Smith and Dr. H. W. Patton.

Christmas was observed generally as a holiday here, and the day was spent in family reunions, big dinners and great enjoyment. Sunday-school celebrations were largely attended. St. George's Episcopal Church held its celebration on Christmas eve at the church at 7:30 o'clock. Prayers, hymns and the Christmas story were read, and the Methodist Church at 3:30 o'clock in the afternoon. St. Mary's Catholic and the Presbyterian Church held their celebrations on Christmas morning, and Trinity Episcopal Church will hold its celebration next Tuesday. The festivities of the day closed with a big German festival, Sunday-school celebration, Normal School to-night, which was largely attended, many couples being on the floor besides a large number of spectators. Another big German festival was held on New Year's night. There will be a number of informal hours during the intervening time. Christmas morning at sunrise a prayer meeting was held at the Christian Church, being conducted by Rev. J. T. T. Hundley, the pastor.

NO ONE IS ACCUSED

Jury Fails to Place Blame for Death of Boy.

Los Angeles, Cal., December 25.—Unable to decide who fired the shots which killed Daniel de Villiers during his struggle Sunday evening with Royal L. Glover, husband of his former wife, the coroner's jury returned a verdict yesterday that the Boer War veteran had met death at the hands of a person unknown.

Mrs. Glover testified that De Villiers declared she saw him draw a pistol. After the shots were fired and De Villiers lay gasping upon the floor, she asserted the dying man gave her his weapon, which she laid on the floor.

Mrs. Glover said she married her present husband last October, a year after a final decree of divorce from De Villiers had been granted. There was a court in San Antonio, Texas. The divorce, she said, was obtained on the ground of cruelty after De Villiers had beaten her several times.

After the divorce she went to New York, where she had a former husband, Campbell, a wealthy broker. She said De Villiers followed her there and then told her that he would kill any man who presumed to marry her.

WANTS MORE CHAPLAINS

Farr's Bill Would Give One to Every 1,000 Men.

Washington, December 25.—An increase of the corps of chaplains in the navy of not less than one for every 1,000 men is proposed in a bill introduced in the House by Representative Farr, of Pennsylvania.

Mr. Farr, in speaking of his measure, said that while the navy had increased six fold since 1841, the corps of chaplains had not been increased.

The bill would give the rank of captain to 10 per cent of the chaplains authorized by law, commander to 25 per cent of them, lieutenant-commander to 20 per cent and the remainder would be lieutenants. All would have the same uniform, pay and allowances as other seagoing officers of the same rank.

BORDEN AGAIN DECLINES

Premier of Canada Does Not Want a Title.

Ottawa, Canada, December 25.—Premier Robert B. Borden has again declined a title in connection with the forthcoming New Year's honors, according to a dispatch to the Journal.

Mr. Borden, it is stated, is Democratic in his tastes and prefers to follow the example of Balfour, Chamberlain, Johnston and Bright, each of whom refused to accept a title.

ONLY ONE SCHOOL IN WHOLE STATE

V. M. I. Single Institution That Requires Students to Work During Christmas.

Lexington, Va., December 25.—The only school in the State of Virginia this Christmas Day is the Virginia Military Institute, where 375 cadets, representing twenty-six States and four foreign nations, are spending their Christmas in their barracks. Work will begin as usual to-morrow morning at 6:15 o'clock.

The regulations of the Virginia Military Institute have been since its founding, in 1825, and still are, that "leaves of absence at Christmas or other time during the academic year are positively prohibited." So Christmas comes and Christmas goes, but June is coming some day, is the attitude they regard it as voiced by a cadet.

The Christmas spirit has been appropriately spoken of in the Cadet last week, the cadets' weekly paper. This follows:

"Santa Claus is coming again. For some of us he takes the form of the dentist, for some the oculist, for some he is a bride and for some a groom. What a joyous revel of doctors and weddings the Christmas season is for us. How opportune are the toothaches, eyeaches, marriages of fifth cousins and illness in the family."

"There were times when Christmas meant a hunt—either game or dardies—but alas! the season on both is over and Christmas in barracks this year will be enlivened only by the munch of the turkey and plum puddings from home and a long white nap in the hay. But over the fireplace at home they will still hang the placard: 'Willie, how we miss you!'"

"At this time of the season the new cadet is perhaps the most downcast of all, being his first Christmas away from home. The third classman is not quite so badly affected, the second classman is looking forward to only one more day in barracks, while the first classman rejoices that it is his last."

"The cadet is allowed the freedom of Lexington only until 4:15 o'clock in the afternoon Christmas, when he adorns his spotless uniform for dress parade. Immediately after follows supper, then study period for the preparation of the following day's lessons. During the day those who have not reached their capacity in devouring the boxes from home and are among the lucky ones still further despoiled of the table of the superintendent or the professors, where a full table is seated every year."

"The institute is the only school in the State that does not grant a Christmas holiday, and one of the three that do not in the United States."

"But in the end every one sees that it is beneficial and take it as a matter of fact. Their sentiments are wrapped in a small card they are sending out, bearing a snow scene of the Virginia Military Institute and bearing the inscription: 'While thou dost feast we do here abide.'"

HARD BLOW TO TEXAS

Christmas Egg Nog Cannot Be Shipped Into "Dry" Territory.

Austin, Tex., December 25.—Christmas egg nog in Texas received a severe blow yesterday, when the Attorney-General's office ruled that home-going travelers could not take intoxicating liquors as baggage into "dry" territory. "Personal carriage," it was held, was the only means of transportation permitted by the law.

The decision was given in the case of a passenger who checked a trunk containing a "fair-sized" amount of liquor. The railroad refused to carry the trunk.

MONEY IN WHEAT

100.00 Buys Puts or Calls on 10,000 bushels of wheat. No further risk. A movement of 100 from price gives you chance to take \$50.00; 100 from 100.00, 200.00, etc. Write for particulars.

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Depository for the State of Virginia and City of Richmond.

Appreciative Attention

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Twenty Million Dollars

this bank is not too large to give considerate attention to the little things which mean much to the welfare of depositors.

It is not too large to lend the weight of its counsel and support to the depositor whose dealings are small, but none the less important to him.

Capital and Surplus

\$3,000,000

INCORPORATED 1832.

Virginia Fire & Marine Insurance Company of Richmond, Virginia

Assets \$1,641,608.00

Surplus to Policyholders 870,548.00

WM. H. PALMER, President

E. B. ADDISON, V.-Pres. W. H. M'CARTHY, Sec.

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